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China

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DATE DISTR.

July 1948

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SUBJECT

COUNTRY

Economic Information: Conditions in Harbin

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- All of the following factories in Harbin are under the direct control of the Chinese Communist Army (number of factories not stated): spinning mills, leather factories, rice polishing mills, match factories and cigarette factories. There are also some cooking oil factories and wine factories (kaoliang and rice wines) which are directly controlled by the Chinese Communist Army. The employees of these factories are well treated and are exempt from military conscription because they are classed as technicians. Most of the workers were employed in these factories when they were under civilian management.
- 2. Factories and shops which are engaged in productive work, or those that profess to be engaged in the production of goods, are comparatively free from Chinese Communist Government restrictions. Retail shops and small stores are under considerable restriction and are declining in number daily,
- 3. Restaurants, public bath houses and similar establishments are placed in a different category from the factories. These establishments operate on a communal basis and the salaries of the employees are derived from a division of the establishment's income.
- 4. New retail stores are allowed to open under severe restrictions but cannot

The prices of various commodities in Harbin in February 1948 were as followed.

I Len	Unit	8th Route Army Currency		kan	Rati¢.	
Melones Cotton eloth	I catty 10 boxes 25 yards	5,000 4,000 250,000	Yuan "	50,000 42,000 2,550,000	. : :	
Rico	500 yards 1 catty	150,000 2,500	1 13	1,300,000 25,000	11	
Kacliang Pork	1 catty 1 catty	1,500 1,800	. 11	15,000 19,000	11	
Beef	1 catty	1,500	R	15,500	(ē	

The rate of exchange between NEC and 8th Route Army currency is approximately 10 yuan NEC to 1 yuan 8th Route Army Currency.

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